

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

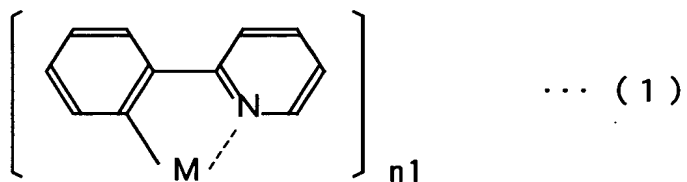
1. An organic electroluminescent device comprising:  
a hole injection electrode;  
5 a light emitting layer; and  
an electron injection electrode in this order,  
said light emitting layer containing  
a luminescent dopant capable of converting triplet  
excitation energy into luminescence, and  
10 an assisting dopant composed of a material capable of  
converting triplet excitation energy into luminescence and  
assisting in movement of the excitation energy to said  
luminescent dopant.
- 15 2. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
claim 1, wherein  
said assisting dopant includes an orthometalated complex.
3. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
20 claim 2, wherein  
said ortho metalated complex includes a platinum group  
element.
4. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
25 claim 1, wherein

said assisting dopant includes an organic compound having a molecular structure expressed by any one of the following formulas (1) to (4),

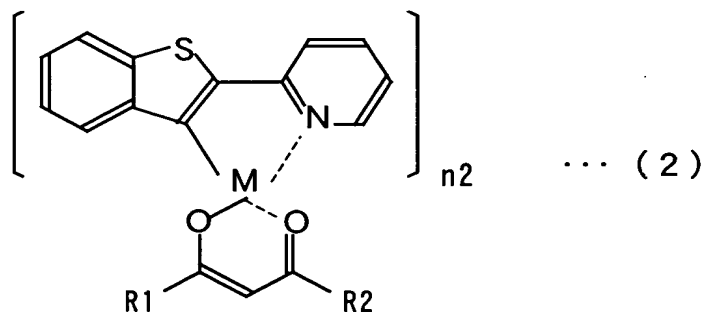
M in the formulas (1) to (4) being a platinum group element,

5 R1 to R4 being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, or a substituent, and

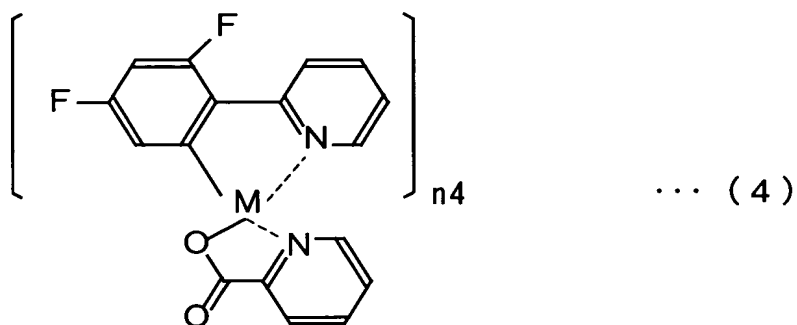
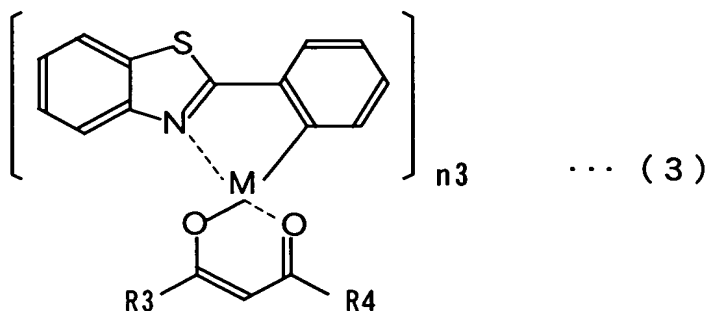
n1 to n4 being integers from 1 through 3.



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5. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 3, wherein

said platinum group element is a metal selected from a group consisting of iridium, platinum, osmium, ruthenium, rhodium, and palladium.

6. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein

the content of said luminescent dopant in said light emitting layer is not less than 1 % by weight nor more than

20 % by weight.

7. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein

5 the content of said assisting dopant in said light emitting layer is not less than 1 % by weight nor more than 20 % by weight.

8. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein

10 the energy gap of said assisting dopant is greater than the energy gap of said luminescent dopant.

9. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein

15 said light emitting layer further contains a host material,

the energy level H0 of the highest occupied molecular orbit of said host material, the energy level H1 of the highest occupied molecular orbit of said luminescent dopant, and the  
20 energy level H2 of the highest occupied molecular orbit of said assisting dopant satisfy a relationship of  $H0 > H2 > H1$ , and

the energy level L0 of the lowest unoccupied molecular orbit of said host material, the energy level L1 of the lowest unoccupied molecular orbit of said luminescent dopant, and the  
25 energy level L2 of the lowest unoccupied molecular orbit of

said assisting dopant satisfy a relationship of  $L0 > L2 > L1$ .

10. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein

5       said assisting dopant emits light.

11. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 10, wherein

10       the luminous intensity of said assisting dopant is not more than 30 % of the luminous intensity of said luminescent dopant.

12. An organic electroluminescent device comprising:

a hole injection electrode;

15       a light emitting layer; and

an electron injection electrode in this order,

said light emitting layer containing

a luminescent dopant capable of converting triplet excitation energy into luminescence, and

20       an assisting dopant composed of a material capable of converting triplet excitation energy into luminescence and assisting in transportation of carriers to said luminescent dopant.